

**Passaic, Hackensack and Newark Bay Remediation Branch Weekly Report**  
**May 27, 2020**  
**Enforcement Confidential**

**RA or DD updates for the week of June 1, 2020:**

**Hot Issues:**

**Past Week:**

**Upcoming:**

**Regional Administrator's Pending Action Items:**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date Sent to RA's Office</u>	<u>Required By/Due Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>

**Other Items of Special Interest:**

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**Non-RA Highlights:**

**Events List:**

<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Event Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>

**Milestone Tracker:**

<u>Site</u>	<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Project Manager</u>	<u>Projected Date</u>
Diamond Alkali OU4	PRAP	Diane Salkie	2020/4
Pierson's Creek OU2	ROD	Pam Tames	2021/1
Riverside Industrial Park	ROD	Josh Smeraldi	2020/4

**Diamond Alkali OU1 (Lister Avenue):**

- Groundwater sampling
  - Submittal of 2019 Annual Groundwater Report, Groundwater Sampling Event No. 10, and GWWS Update/Hydraulic Gradient Update – Estimated 6/1/20.
- Remedy of Site Evaluation Report Addendum submitted 4/30/20, under review by EPA and NJDEP, comments due 6/01/20.
  - Submittal of Revised Remedy Evaluation Report – 6 weeks from approval of Site Evaluation Report Addendum.
- EPA reviewed submitted comments on GSH revised and updated DASS Operation and Maintenance QAPP. Revised QAPP with EPA comments and responses expected 5/29GSH

proceeded to the remove that NAPL that was accumulated in EW-4 after gauging the extractions wells this month

- Completed draft OU1 oversight bill

#### **Diamond Alkali OU2 (8.3 miles):**

- Exemption 5, Attorney-client communication, Attorney work product; Exemption 7(a), Enforcement [REDACTED]
- PSE&G field sampling plan and QAPP for manufactured gas plant product investigation in Passaic River are approved. Conference call to be scheduled shortly to discuss how to perform sediment sampling safely.
- EPA and NJDEP are working together to figure out how to remove abandoned barges along the lower 8.3 miles before the remedial action begins.
- Exemption 5, Deliberative/Pre-decisional [REDACTED]

#### **Diamond Alkali OU3 (Newark Bay Study Area):**

- GSH submitted revised BERA for EPA back check review on 5/12, should be able to send backcheck comments to GSH 5/27
- FS “no action” run started 5/18, anticipated completion in early July
- NBSA CSTAG’s responses to memo draft completed and under internal review by management and ORC.
- EPA preparing additional clarification requested on PRG-RAO comments
- GSH submitted the Identification of Candidate Technologies and Technology Screening Technical Memo on 5/19. Draft is under review by EPA and Partner Agencies.
- Completed draft of OU3 oversight bill

#### **Diamond Alkali OU4 (17-Mile):**

- Reviewed version 1 of the draft IR FS received on May 15, 2020 from the CPG.
- Met with NJDEP to discuss the Y factor and number of samples to demonstrate remedy completeness.
- Met with internal EPA team to discuss a preferred alternative.
- Continued to work on the draft Proposed Plan.

#### **Universal Oil Products:**

- RD AOC/SOW effective as of 5/26/2020.
- Vapor intrusion report submitted.
- Took quick review of SCORPIOS reports. Time period would include billing for oversight of RI/FS and interim costs under RD order. Asking for clarification or new SCORPIOS.

#### **Berry’s Creek Study Area:**

- Scheduled meeting with NJDEP for Corps comments on InfoWorks model calibration for May 28<sup>th</sup>. Meeting to discuss BCSA Group comments on potential erosion concerns will be held in June.
- Quick review of SCORPIOS report noted that period from 9/30/2018 to 12/31/2018 would not have been billed. Requested clarification or new SCORPIOS report.

- After ORC letter, radio station owner is now in communication with BCSA Group regarding access. They have requested a list of items that are needed for providing access for surveying.
- Geotechnical cores, and LiDAR flyover completed. Surveying continuing.
- Will send a letter to State of New Jersey to assist with obtaining information regarding bridges in project area.

#### **Ventron/Velsicol:**

- No comments on warehouse construction document. Do not have the revised O&M plan yet though.
- Several items remain to be resolved in next months.
- **Exemption 5, Deliberative/Pre-decisional**  
[REDACTED]
- Jay Steinberg (Fruit of the Loom bankruptcy trustee) requested releasing a portion of the funds from the Trust for other projects that required money. ORC gathered some information and is preparing a response.
- Randolph property (adjacent to site) drainage has been reworked, and now occasionally floods Ventron site. Had discussion with property owner and PRP representatives on site.
  - Need to review:
    - 2018 Annual Report
  - **Exemption 5, Attorney-client communication; Deliberative/Pre-decisional**  
[REDACTED]

#### **Standard Chlorine:**

- RD/RA: 100% RD due in 60 days (June 23).
- O&M: Ongoing.
- On May 14, sent email to Anthony Pilawski, Section Chief, Bureau of Pretreatment and Residuals that EPA legal contact is Krista Yacavonel; on April 22 he emailed that he believes no 121e permit exemption for residuals and would be seeking NJDEP legal opinion. Continuing to discuss with ORC.
- Redevelopment:
  - Pre-Design investigation underway for replacement slurry wall. Reviewed weekly progress report submitted May 21.
  - Next redevelopment plan anticipated to be submitted by/through KEY is sewer/water; scope of work currently in discussions among HCIA/Morris, Kearny Municipal Utilities Authority, NJ Transit.
  - Received RA Work Plan Addendum from Morris team (Nidal Rabah of TRC) on May 11; requested Keith Morris/TRC resubmit this Koppers document to NJDEP without conceptual design for Standard Chlorine replacement slurry wall and reminded them all Superfund Site RD/RA needs to be submitted to EPA per Consent Decree.

#### **Pierson's Creek:**

- Received the draft RI for OU2 on 9/23/19. The BHHRA was submitted on 10/31/19. On 3/24/20, Geosyntec submitted the revised combined RI and BHHRA. It is currently under review. DEP's



comments expected next week. Geosyntec's latest schedule has Troy submitting the draft FS on 7/24/2020 (although they say this date is only meant to track submissions not a schedule change).

- Troy sent a letter on 4/15/20 focusing on EPA's approach and would like to meet with EPA to discuss the schedule. Their schedule now estimates a December ROD. HQ (Steven Cook) was also copied on the letter. A response letter to Troy was sent on 5/11/20. As of 5/26/20, no response has been received from Troy although we were told to expect one.
- Received the draft SOW and AOC back from 429 Delancy on 9/17/19. A call was held with 429 Delancy on 11/20. Received the latest draft AOC from Amelia on 3/24 for review. 429 Delancy is not happy with this latest revision and is preparing a response. As of 5/26/20, 429's attorney stated that they are still working on a redline strikeout.
- The Troy invoice was sent out on 4/27/20. Troy requested and received a 30-day extension for payment and they also have some questions about the SCORPIOS report. ORC is preparing a response to their letter.
- The future buyer (Salomone) of the Globe Metals (Oberwill) property performed construction on the site and dug up the unnamed tributary adjacent to Globe/Troy and replaced it with piping and drainage features. The Oberwill and Salomone notice letters were sent out on 4/20/20. A conference call was held on 5/7/20 to discuss. CDM assessed the soil stockpiles on 5/5/20 to determine if additional stabilization measures are necessary. Not all the piles are fully covered.

#### **Exemption 5, Attorney-client communication**

- Working on the RAF contracting reviews for the OU1 FS work. Working on the draft AEEB selection report.

#### **Riverside Industrial Park:**

- Comments on the draft FS were sent to PPG on May 18<sup>th</sup>. A revised FS from PPG is expected June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The proposed plan is being drafted.
- We are preparing a community involvement plan to coincide with the release of the proposed plan this summer.
- Community member interviews are being conducted this week.

#### **Scientific Chemical Processing**

- Northern Area Enhanced Anaerobic Biodegradation to address VOCs: Another round of sodium lactate injections was performed this week under Phase 1 of the remedial action. Monitoring data show that VOC concentrations are generally declining.